

C L A I M S

1. A yarn texturing machine comprising

a plurality of yarn processing units which are serially arranged along a yarn path of travel leading to a takeup device,

a threading device for initially threading a yarn along at least a portion of the path of travel, said threading device comprising a guide tube and an air injector connected to the guide tube, with the guide tube including a suction inlet for taking in the yarn and a blow outlet for ejecting the yarn, and

a cutting device positioned adjacent the suction inlet for cutting the yarn while it is being initially threaded into the suction inlet.

2. The yarn texturing machine of claim 1

wherein the cutting device comprises a cutting blade and a movable yarn guide positioned to move the yarn into engagement with the cutting blade to cut the yarn and so that the cut end of the yarn is drawn into the suction inlet.

3. The yarn texturing machine of claim 2

wherein the yarn guide is mounted at the free end of a pivotally mounted elongate strap, and wherein the yarn may be pivoted to a threading position where the retained yarn engages the cutting blade and is within a range of suction of the suction inlet.

4. The yarn texturing machine of claim 1

wherein the guide tube includes a heater having a closed heating channel and an inlet end, and such that the inlet end of the heater forms the suction inlet.

5 5. The yarn texturing machine of claim 1 wherein the plurality of yarn processing units include a feed system positioned upstream of the guide tube and so that the yarn leaving the feed system is aligned with the suction inlet.

10 6. The yarn texturing machine of claim 5 wherein said feed system comprises a godet unit which is mounted on a pivotal support, and wherein the cutting device comprises a cutting blade and a yarn guide, with one of said cutting blade and yarn guide being mounted to the pivotal support and the other of the cutting blade and yarn guide being fixedly mounted adjacent said suction inlet.

15 7. The yarn texturing machine of claim 6 wherein the godet unit comprises a driven godet and an associated guide roll which are looped by the yarn.

20 8. The yarn texturing machine of claim 1 further comprising a processing module which mounts at least a portion of the yarn processing units, and a takeup module which mounts the takeup device, with said processing module and said takeup module being joined to form a frame section which is arranged between a doffing aisle which is adjacent the takeup module and a servicing aisle which is adjacent the processing module.

25 9. The yarn texturing machine of claim 8 wherein the guide tube is arranged on the underside of the frame section and forms at least a portion of a yarn path between the processing module and the takeup module.

30 10. The yarn texturing machine of claim 1 further comprising a second threading device for initially threading the yarn along a portion of the yarn

path of travel downstream of said first mentioned
threading device, said second threading device comprising
a second guide tube and an air injector connected to the
second guide tube, and with the second guide tube
5 positioned for advancing the yarn to the takeup device.

11. The yarn texturing machine of claim 10
wherein the second guide tube includes a blow outlet, and
wherein the takeup device includes a suction device which
has an opening which is aligned with the blow outlet of
10 the second guide tube.

12. The yarn texturing machine of claim 10
wherein the second guide tube includes a suction inlet
and a blow outlet, and wherein said plurality of yarn
processing units includes a feed system positioned
15 between the blow outlet of the first mentioned guide tube
and the suction inlet of the second guide tube.

13. The yarn texturing machine of claim 12
wherein the blow outlet of the first mentioned guide tube
and the suction inlet of the second guide tube are
20 aligned with each other.

14. The yarn texturing machine of claim 12
wherein said feed system includes a driven feed godet and
a guide roll, and a threading device for looping the yarn
around the godet and guide roll.

25 15. A method of threading an advancing yarn
onto a texturing apparatus which comprises a plurality of
yarn processing units which are serially arranged along a
yarn path of travel leading to a takeup device,
comprising the steps of

30 positioning a guide tube along a portion
of the yarn path of travel and generating an air flow

within the tube so that the tube defines a suction inlet and a blow outlet,

engaging the advancing yarn with a yarn guide and moving the yarn guide and the engaged yarn to a
5 threading position immediately upstream of the suction inlet of the guide tube and so that the yarn is cut by a cutting blade with the cut end being engaged by the suction effect at the suction inlet of the guide tube.

16. The method of Claim 15 wherein the plurality of
10 processing units comprise a yarn heater positioned to form at least an upstream end portion of the guide tube.